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FIELD CROPS

Crop Production



September 13, 2000

FLORIDA

PEANUTS: Production is estimated at 184,000,000 pounds, down 4 percent from last month and down 29 percent from last year. The estimated yield for 2000 is 2,300 pounds per acre, down 100 pounds from the previous month and down 470 pounds from 1999. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 80,000 acres, down 15 percent from last year. Harvest started in late August with 4 percent of the peanuts harvested on September 3 as compared with 10 percent last year.

SUGARCANE: Production is estimated at 17.3 million tons, up 7 percent from last month, and up 7 percent from last year. The average yield is estimated at 38.0 tons per acre, up two tons from the previous

month, and up 3 tons from 1999. The 454,000 acres harvested for sugar and seed are 6,000 acres less than last year. Harvest will start in October.

TOBACCO: Growers estimate tobacco production at 12.0 million pounds, down 2 percent from last month, and down 22 percent from last year. The yield is estimated at 2,450 pounds, down 50 pounds from the previous month, and down 190 pounds from a year earlier. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 4,900 acres, down 900 acres from 1999. Florida growers finished harvesting tobacco in late August. The tobacco marketing season will be active into October.

UNITED STATES

CORN FOR GRAIN: Production is forecast at 10.4 billion bushels, unchanged from the last forecast, but up 10 percent from 1999. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 141.8 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushel per acre from August, but up 8.0 bushels from a year ago. If realized, this would be the largest production and yield on record. Acreage for grain harvest is estimated at 73.1 million acres, unchanged from August. Acreage harvested and to be harvested for grain is forecast at 73.1 million acres, unchanged from last month, but up 4 percent from 1999. The September 1 Corn Objective Yield data indicate a record level stalk count for the combined seven objective yield States (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin). The September forecasted ears per acre are also the highest on record. Ear measurements from the sample plots indicate a length equal to last year and above the five-year average. As of September 3, seventy-six percent of the acreage was reported dented in the 18 major corn-producing States. This compares with 75 percent last year and 59 percent for the five-year average. Corn rated in good to excellent condition totaled 66 percent compared to 59 percent for a year ago.

COTTON: Production is forecast at 18.3 million 480-pound bales, down 4 percent from last month, but up 8 percent from 1999. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 622 pounds per harvested acre, down 26 pounds from last month. Condition of the cotton crop has deteriorated since last month, especially in the Delta and southwest regions. Continued drought and extremely high temperatures have resulted in additional stress to the crop. Harvested acreage, at 14.1 million acres, reflects an increase from August 1 of 30,000 acres in Arkansas and a decrease of 30,000 acres in Louisiana, 60,000 acres in Mississippi, and 5,000 acres in California. Upland cotton harvested acreage, at 13.9 million acres, is 6 percent above 1999. Arkansas increased 30,000 acres from August 1, while Louisiana and Mississippi decreased 30,000 and 60,000 acres, respectively, from their August 1 levels. In the 13 States which lay out objective yield plots, eight States reduced yields from August, one State increased yield, and four States remained unchanged. American-Pima harvested acreage, at 176,000 acres, is down 5,000 acres from last month. In the southeastern States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia), rainfall was received during August in many areas. However, due to continuing hot, dry conditions, the soil moisture evaporated quickly. Some boll rot was reported due to the rainfall on open bolls. However, overall condition of the crop remains similar to the August 1 report. On September 3, Georgia rated 68 percent of its cotton acreage as fair to excellent, compared to 65 percent on July 30. Upland growers in the Delta States (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee) experienced extreme moisture shortages and near record high temperatures during the month of August. These conditions resulted in rapid development and deterioration of the crop.

PEANUTS: Production is forecast at 3.75 billion pounds, down 1 percent from August 1 and 2 percent below last year's crop. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.47 million acres, unchanged from the August report, but up 2 percent from 1999. Yields are expected to average 2,561 pounds, 26 pounds below last month and down 106 pounds from 1999. Production in the Southeast States (Alabama,

Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina) is expected to total 1.76 billion pounds, down slightly from last month and 18 percent below last year's level. Yields in the four-State area are expected to average 2,213 pounds per acre, down 9 pounds from August 1 and 284 pounds below 1999. Yield prospects in Alabama and Georgia were unchanged from last month. The yield forecast in South Carolina increased 100 pounds from last month. Early harvest was underway in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia. As of September 3, the crop condition in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina was mostly fair to good while the crop condition in Alabama was rated mostly very poor.

SOYBEANS: Production is forecast at a record-high 2.90 billion bushels, down 3 percent from August 1, but 10 percent above 1999. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 39.5 bushels per acre, down 1.2 bushels from last month, but 3.0 bushels above 1999. Acreage for harvest is estimated at a record 73.5 million acres, unchanged from last month, and up 1 percent from 1999.

SUGARCANE: Production is forecast at a record-high 36.7 million tons, 4 percent above the previous record of 35.3 million tons set last year. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest a record-high 1.03 million acres for sugar and seed during the 2000 crop year, 3 percent more than last year's final harvested acres. Louisiana growers expect to harvest a record-high 490,000 acres. Yield is forecast at 35.7 tons per acre, 0.2 ton above 1999. Drought intensified and reduced yield prospects in Louisiana. Moisture shortages also limited crop growth in Texas. Moisture shortages in Hawaii were partially alleviated by timely precipitation.

TOBACCO: U.S. all tobacco production for 2000 is forecast at 1.09 billion pounds, down 15 percent from 1999 but 2 percent above the August 1 forecast. If realized, this will be the smallest crop since 1934. Revised area for harvest in 2000 is forecast at 492,240 acres, down 24 percent from 1999. Yields for 2000 are expected to average 2,220 pounds per acre, 223 pounds higher than a year ago, and 51 pounds higher than the August 1 forecast. Yield prospects in North Carolina, the leading flue-cured State, are averaging higher than last year. Kentucky, the leading burley State, also expects yields to average above a year ago. Tobacco growers in Connecticut, Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Pennsylvania expect lower yields than a month ago. However, growers in Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia expect improved yields compared to last month. The largest change from last month and last year, was a significant drop in yield and acreage in the Connecticut Valley Broadleaf and Shade-grown due to "brown spot" and "hollow stem." Flue-cured (types 11 - 14) production is expected to total 597 million pounds, up 2 percent from last month but down 9 percent from 1999. Growers plan to harvest 253,900 acres in 2000, 16 percent below last year. Yield is expected to average 2,352 pounds per acre, 190 pounds higher than the previous year.

WINTER WHEAT: Production is placed at 2.30 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the August forecast but down fractionally from 1999. The U.S. yield is forecast at 42.3 bushels per acre. This is up 0.7 bushels from last month.

Crop production: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of September 1, 2000 with comparisons

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	1999	For harvest 2000	1999	In- dicated 2000		1999	Indicated 2000
	Thousands		Units			Thousands	
FLORIDA							
Cotton ^{2/}	106	92	516	420	^{1/}	114.0	80.5
Peanuts	94	80	2,770	2,300	Lbs.	260,380	184,000
Potatoes:							
Winter ^{2/}	9.3	8.0	200	230	Cwt	1,860	1,840
Spring ^{2/}	28	24	315	291	Cwt	8,820	6,990
Sugarcane	460	454	35	38	Ton	16,100	17,252
Tobacco, Type 14	5.8	4.9	2,640	2,450	Lbs.	15,312	12,005
UNITED STATES							
Corn for grain	70,537	73,059	133.8	141.8	Bu.	9,437,337	10,362,374
Cotton, all ^{4/}	13,424.9	14,123.0	607	622	^{1/}	16,968.0	18,315.1
Hay, all ^{2/}	63,160	62,191	2.52	2.46	Ton	159,077	153,255
Peanuts for nuts	1,436.0	1,465.5	2,667	2,561	Lbs.	3,829,490	3,752,850
Potatoes:							
Winter ^{2/}	17.8	17.0	229	278	Cwt	4,070	4,720
Spring ^{2/}	84.5	80.1	300	281	Cwt	25,327	22,486
Summer	64.0	62.3	296	297	Cwt	18,972	18,504
Fall	1,332.4	1,359.3	359	^{5/}	Cwt	478,216	^{5/}
Rice	3,512	3,085	5,866	6,212	^{3/}	206,027	191,643
Sorghum for grain	8,544	8,315	69.7	62.1	Bu.	595,166	516,028
Soybeans for beans	72,476	73,474	36.5	39.5	Bu.	2,642,908	2,899,571
Sugarbeets	1,527.3	1,504.0	21.9	22.8	Ton	33,420	34,299
Sugarcane for sugar and seed	993.3	1,026.4	35.5	35.7	Ton	35,299	36,667
Tobacco, All	647.2	492.2	1,997	2,220	Lbs.	1,292,692	1,092,907
Tobacco, Type 14	38.8	34.9	2,045	2,235	Lbs.	79,332	78,005
Wheat, all	53,909	54,445	42.7	42.3	Bu.	2,302,443	2,302,252
Winter ^{2/}	35,572	35,401	47.8	45.0	Bu.	1,699,989	1,594,321
Durum	3,569	3,986	27.8	29.6	Bu.	99,322	117,862
Other spring	14,768	15,058	34.1	39.2	Bu.	503,132	590,069

^{1/} Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales. ^{2/} Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.
^{3/} Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. ^{4/} Includes both upland and Amer-Pima cotton. ^{5/} First forecast in November.